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SA (COMOR) / *DDSCC Cuba file*

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64-4835

6 July 1964

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Status of Cuban Coverage

1. In view of the fact that the present area coverage of Cuba has dropped to 74 per cent (it was 83 per cent at the time of the Biweekly Report and had dropped to 78 per cent by 2 July), it is considered necessary to advise the Chairman of the following:

a. A mission was flown Thursday, 2 July, designed to cover the central portion of Cuba which as of that date comprised the major "holiday" in area coverage.

b. This office checked the results of the mission on Saturday, 4 July, and was told that the pilot's prediction was that 70 per cent coverage might have been obtained.

c. However, this morning the NPIC report showed the area coverage figure to have fallen to 74 per cent. The pilot's estimate had been too optimistic.

d. Although the coverage of highest priority targets has not fallen below the requirements required by USIB-D-41.14/122 (COMOR-D-24/127), it is noted that last week's category coverage was below par.

e. We have ascertained that DIA is on top of the situation in that it has advised SAC where the weak areas are located and has requested that SAC should plan its missions accordingly.

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f. The weather prognostication for today's mission leads to a hope that Camaguey Province, which constitutes the western portion of the "holiday" area, may be covered under favorable weather conditions. The weather of Oriente Province, the eastern portion of the "holiday" area, is not quite so favorable.

g. The prediction for adverse weather conditions tomorrow would normally preclude planning a mission.

2. This office will obtain the results of today's mission as rapidly as possible and will check omissions both in area and highest priority category coverage with DDI analysts. It will keep advised of weather predictions and insure that DIA conveys to SAC all information on where "holidays" exist which should be covered as soon as possible. Should analysts recommend urgent coverage of any areas which would not be achieved by SAC flying in accordance with its standards governing weather, a recommendation will be forwarded to you regarding the need for exceptions to be made to SAC standards or possibly for low-level coverage.

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Chairman
Committee on Overhead Reconnaissance

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